FIVE LETTERS From a GENTLEMAN in SCOTLAND TO His Friend in London;

Being a True Account

Of what Remarkable Paſſages have happened ſince the Prince's Landing; the manner of the taking of the Chancellor, and his Lady in Mans Apparel, the burning of the Pope, Demoliſhing of the Popiſh Chapels, *&c.* with the total overthrow of the *Roman Catholicks*.

Edinburgh, Decemb. 3. 1688.

THE Students of the Univerſity here, deſigned, ſome time ago, to burn the Pope's *Effigies*; but that was not more zealouſly deſired to be prevented by ſome, than to be done by others; notwithſtanding all the imaginable care taken to prevent it, yet it was done about Ten Days ago, after day-light gone, at the Croſs, and blown up with art, that ſeems to have been beyond their invention, above Four Stories high. Two days thereafter they went to the *Parliament-Houſe*, at mid-day, paſſing by the Guards, crying, *No Pope, No Papiſt*; and being got into the *Parliament-Houſe*, (after they had required the Guards to be preſent at the Sentence) and having got upon the Bench, they Arraigned his *Holineſs* before his Judges, and gave the Jury their Commiſſion, who brought him in Guilty; whereupon, he was ſentenced to be burnt publickly at the Croſs the Twenty Fifth of this inſtant; and withal declared and proteſted for a *Free Parliament*.

On *Sunday* laſt, advertiſement was giving by a Papiſt, to a Gentlewoman to remove her ſelf out of this City, and to carry out her Husbands papers forthwith, becauſe that Night there ſhould be here a hot wakening, ſuch as had not been heretofore, and adviſed her to give the ſame advice to any of her friends ſhe pleaſed.

Your friend Mr. *M.* being acquainted with this, he revealed the ſame to ſeveral of our Magiſtrates, (which, as is alledged, was not regarded,) he went thereafter and acquainted the Guard of our *Trained-bands* there with; whereupon, Captain *Patrick Johnſtone*, (*Hilton*'s Brother) cauſed to beat the Drums, and the noiſe having gone abroad, and ſeveral perſons having ordered their Arms, and people flocking together to conſider what was fit to be done, the Magiſtrates, with the Council, convened for the ſame purpoſe. A great many Boys met alſo, and went through the whole Town, crying aloud, *No Pope, No*

Papiſt, *No Popiſh Chancellor*, *No* Melfort, *No Father* Petres. But the Gates were ſhut, the Magiſtrates went along the ſtreets for the keeping of the peace; and nothing more was done that night, except the breaking of three or four Glaſs-windows of *Papiſts* Houſes, and that ſome of the Boys got up to the Croſs, and Proclaimed a *Free-Parliament*, and offered Two Thouſand Pounds for *Melfort*'s Head; ſo that Night paſſed over, when all people here were in fear of ſome ill deſigns, and the rather, becauſe of their certain knowledge that there were lying in the Suburbs a great many Hundreds of *Highland men*, (or rather Thouſands) and that all that day the Abbey Gates were exactly kept by Souldiers, Commanded by Captain *Wallace*, a *Papiſt*, and none admitted to enter except *Papiſts* or *Highland-men*.

On *Monday*, about mid-day, the Chancellor parted thence, and went towards the Highlands, by advice of ſeveral of the Privy Council and his friends, and took a good Guard with him. At Night the Students went (without Arms) to the Abbey, to condemn the Pope, and to Proclaim a *Free Parliament*, and perhaps to burn what was contained in the Chapel, but without asking queſtions, were repulſed by a ſhower of Ball, whereby ſeveral were wounded, and ſome ſince dead of their wounds, which coming to the Privy Councils knowledge (which was then ſitting) they called the Town Council, (then alſo met) and Captain *Grahame*; deſired them to ſee to the preſervance of the peace, and ſent Six Heralds with an order to Captain *Wallace*, and his men, to lay down their Arms, render themſelves Priſoners, and deliver their Guards to the Magiſtrates, but they were Answer'd by Ball, which being reported to the Privy Council, they forthwith ordered Captain *Grahame*, and his Company, Trained-bands and Militia, to fall upon them, which they did; *Wallace* and his men fled, ſeveral of them were taken, and ſome wounded, as were ſome of Captain *Grahame*'s men. The Rabble were ſo incenſed upon the firing, and ſuppoſition that it was Boys were killed, that they burnt all that was contained in the Chapels, the Jeſuits Colledge, the Popiſh Printing-houſe, the Abbey Church, the Chancellors Lodgings, and generally, all that was contained in the Houſes of Papiſts, in the Town and Cannon-gate, excepting what was taken away by ſome people who deſigned plunder.

They had fires in the Abbey-Court, and at the Croſs, all the Night, and ſpared nothing they got in Papiſts Houſes. Some few Houſes were ſpared at the interceſſion of ſome Proteſtants their friends, and after true enquiry, I heard the loſs is called greater than it is. None of the Papiſts themſelves were killed or wounded. They met with few of them, thoſe they got they carried into the Guard.

In ſome of the Popiſh Houſes they found Arms and Barrels of Powder, which provoked to a more narrow ſearch. All this time the Caſtle never fired one Gun, which is more attributed to the Duke of *Gordon*, than to any other inferior Officer. I am told the Council ſent and diſcharged an Execution from the Caſtle. Some of the Boys are dead of their wounds. *Traquair* (a Popiſh Lord) and ſeveral others went to, and continue in the Caſtle for their ſecurity. The Council ordered the ſearching for Ammunition and Arms in ſome Popiſh Houſes in the Country, and this day committed a Warrant for the reſtoring of what was plundred out of the Papiſts Houſes.

I had forgot to tell you, that on *Monday* laſt the Privy Council disbanded Six Hundred Men, taken on the *Friday* before, and commanded all the Highlanders forthwith to depart upon pain of death, and yeſterday ordered all Gentlemen to depart out of the Town, excepting ſuch as ſhould give account of their buſineſs to ſome of the Privy Council. I am credibly informed, that this day in the Privy Council, was voted an Addreſs to be made to his Majeſty for a *Free Parliament*; there are ſeveral Noblemen and Gentlemen gone from hence into *England*, and more to follow, but its ſuſpected they are going to the Prince of *Orange*.

Edinburgh,

Edinburgh, Decemb. 20.

WHen the Chancellor went away privately from the Abbey for *Caſtle Drummond*, he gave ſtrict command to Captain *Wallace* to preſerve the Chapel, *&c.* The Rabble having gathered, and procured Links, without any Fire-Arms, about Six at Night went to the Abbey, and were denied acceſs; whereupon, ſome preſſing forward, *Wallace* commanded his Souldiers to Fire; which they did, and killed and wounded about Twenty, whereof one half died ſhortly after. The Rabble retired to the City with a great noiſe, towards the Entry to the Court of the Parliament-Houſe, where ſome of the Lords of the Privy-Council were ſitting. There ſome Weſt-Country Gentlemen encouraged them to proſecute a Revenge, and got the Provoſt of the City to go to the Houſe of Lords, and told them, if they would not give a Warrant to Aſſault *Wallace*, and force him from the Abbey, they would do it without it. The Lords being alarm'd with the ſlaughter, and a report that ſeveral Gentlemens Sons were killed, and ſome of their own; they ordered a Herald at Arms, with ſound of Trumpet, to command *Wallace* in the Kings Name to give up his Guard at the Abbey to the City: And the Company under the Cities Pay marched firſt, commanded by Captain *Grahame*; and after them all the Train'd-bands and Militia, to force him in caſe of refuſal; ſeveral Gentlemen accompanying *Grahame*, and the Magiſtrates attending, *Wallace* refuſed the Herald, and fired upon *Grahame*, and the reſt behind; wounded ſome Gentlemen and a few Souldiers: But *Grahame* Marched quickly down a Lane on the South-ſide of the Porch of the Abbey-Court, where *Wallace* was Poſted, and by a back way entered the Court, came upon *Wallace*'s Reer, and the Town Companies Fronting him; after the firſt Fire he and all his Men fled; only a few of them were taken, the moſt part eſcaping under the darkneſs of the Night. The City being thus Maſter of the Abbey the Rabble immediately, without oppoſition, went firſt to the Chapel, forced the Doors, broke all to pieces, and carried ſeveral parcels in Triumph up to the Croſs, and burnt them there.

The next day ſtrong Guards were ſet through the whole City and Suburbs, in convenient places, to repreſs any farther Tumult; and ſo all was quiet, and continues ſo.

This Morning there was coming into *Leith* a Boat from *Burnt-Iſland*, with Eighty Men a-board, being a part of Two or Three Hundred which had been ſent for by the Duke of *Gordon* from the North, to inforce the Caſtle; the reſt were to follow. But the Bailiff of *Leith* having notice beforehand of their coming, ſent on Board and diſcharged their coming into the Harbor, and deſired to ſpeak with their Commander; who came aſhore, and owned the deſign; being believed to be all Papiſts: He was ſeized, and the Men commanded back to the other ſhoar, under the higheſt pains.

The Lords of the Treaſury have called in all Commiſſions given to Papiſts, for Collecting His Majeſty's Revenue.

Edinburgh, Decemb. 22.

THE Chancellor, thinking as Affairs ſtood, he was not ſecure at home, reſolved for *France*; and with all the privacy imaginable, he in Womans and his Lady in Mans Clothes, got a-board a Veſſel bound from this Firth the 20*th.* inſtant, being *Thurſday*; which ſet Sail, the Wind being fair: But a certain perſon on Horſeback, Riding by *Kircaldie*, where the Seamen uſe to walk, called to them, and told them, there was a good Prize in that Ship under Sail, namely, the Chancellor of *Scotland*. Whereupon, about Thirty Six common Seamen, Commanded by one *Wilſon*, that had been a Bucaneer

neer in *America*, which had Guns or Muskets, mann'd a light Boat; and with out any Provisions, save a little Brandy, or any Order from a Magistrate, set Sail immediately, and came up with the Ship that Night, Boarded her, inquired for the Chancellor, whom they denied to be a-board; but after search, found him and his Lady cloathed as aforesaid; brought the Ship back, and carried the Prisoners, with Mr. *Nicolson*, (a Priest, late Regent in the College of *Glasgow*) ashore to *Kircaldie* Talbooth (or Prison.) The Chancellor wrote Letters yesterday to several of the Privy Council, complaining of the injury done him. The Council have ordered him to be carried by the Earl of *Marr*, and a Company of the Militia, to *Stirling* Castle.

The Duke of *Gordon* has been desired by the Council to lay down his Charge of Governour of the Castle; but he still declines it; alledging, that seeing he has his Commission immediately from the King, and to be accountable to none else, he cannot in honour lay it down till he has His Majesty's command for it; and says, he had sent a Gentleman expresly to know His Majesty's pleasure upon that point fourteen days ago, and expects his return every day: And in the mean time, has assured the Council by Letters, and this day the Provost and Magistrates of the City, whom he sent for to speak with, that he will upon his Word of Honour be a good Neighbour, and not do them or the City any prejudice.

Two days a-go his Captain put an Oath to the Souldiers, whereby they bound themselves to be faithful to His Majesty, and their Superior Officers, and to defend the Protestant Religion; which being refused by Twenty or Thirty, whereof Five were Papists, they were turned out.

There was a Pink Arrived at *Leith* on *Thursday*, sent by his Majesty. The Searchers seized Two Boxes in it directed to the Chancellor, *&c.* and being brought to the Council, there were found in them several Precepts upon the Treasury, for payment of certain Sums to Papists, and some Commissions; in particular, a Commission to one *Peter Winste*, (a Papist) to be Major of the Gates of the Castle, and have power of all the Keys, without being accountable to the Lieutenant (who is a Protestant;) but only to the Duke, and his Depury, who is a Papist too.

Edinburgh, Decemb. 25.

THis day the Students burnt the *Pope* solemnly at the Cross before Thousands of Spectators; our Privy Councellors and Magistrates were Spectators, and no inconveniences followed. The Students were divided according to their Classes, (that is their years of standing) each Class with its Captain. They advanced orderly with Swords in their hands and Hoitboys before them; the College Mass was carried before them by the under Janitor in his Gown, and bare.

We have many reports here of the Landing of *Irish*-men, but false; the whole Country is in Arms, and Apprehends the Papists, and at *Drumfreise* they have taken and imprisoned the Provost, with some other Papists and Priests, and guard their Town with Six Companies a-Night, and have planted Cannon (taken from their Ships) at the Cross and Ports, and recovered their Ammunition which was sent to *Carlavorock* Castle.

Edinburgh, Decemb. 27.

OUR Council has sent an Address to the Prince of *Orange*, at least it may go hence on *Saturday* next. At *Glasgow* the Prince of *Orange* was Proclaimed the *Protestant Protector*. The whole Country is up for the Prince, or at least under pretence for the safety against Papists; but there is no fear of them in this Kingdom, unless it be in *Nithisdale* and *Galloway*; and I think neither there: However, there were some long Knives, or Bagoners of a strange shape, taken at *Kirkubright*.

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